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Letters to a Young Kindergarten- ener.

NO. II.

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MY DEAR MARY: Your welcome letter shall have a speedy reply, for I know you are looking for it with the hope of feeling encouraged and safe to go on in the management of that little Robbie whom you wrote about. His mother's management of him will be productive of the most disastrous consequences for his whole future life, especially as he has lost his father, who might bring him under some sort of control and help to guide his will in the right direction. His salvation, as far as I can see at present, depends on his continuing in the Kindergarten under the absolute guidance of the loving teacher. When such cases come to my notice I can not help deploring anew that so few mothers try to find out and follow Froebel's method of infant training.

Oh! if they did, what a delightful task it would then be for the Kindergarten to receive the little ones, fresh from the hands of God, as I might say (for is not the faithful, loving parent the child's visible God, and is not Froebel's method—being nature's method—that of the Creator of the universe?) and go on in the work of educating them in the philosophic method, which it took Froebel half a century to find out and demonstrate to his fellow beings.

How long, oh! how long, will it be before his system of Infant Training will not only be considered an accomplishment, but a most important part of every young woman's education, and when every college and academy for Young Ladies will be considered as inefficient and behind the times, where a Department devoted to the Science of "the new education," has not been introduced?

But it might well be objected how many mothers have time or money to study this system, and I think myself that the State might do something towards establishing an institution where mothers could attend the course of lectures given to governesses and nurses as is being done in Hamburg with great success. There they receive a diploma after completing the course, and are most eagerly sought after to become inmates of the highest families in the country. Another excellent way would be to have Froebel's system of infant training taught in every charitable institution for girls and women in this country.

But I digress from the subject in hand.—You do wisely not to insist upon having a child sing and enter into the exercises of the school, when he first begins to come to school; for invariably you found that before a month had expired they would join, from their own free will, with a heartiness which is never the result of coercion.

You know my enthusiasm on the subject of music, and that I think in every child there should and can be a taste and an ear for music cultivated, if only its musical education is commenced early enough.

Froebel also would have the mother and nurse do all her talking and intercourse with the tender baby as much as possible not only in simple rhymes, but with melody and song.

"A child glad and happy in his affections" says Froebel, "sings what he feels: words alone—spoken—do not quite satisfy him, but in ascending and descending tones he endeavors to reflect his interior emotions and give them form."

I well remember your little sister Ella, when only three years old, how she would sing by the hour together, "Papa, mamma, papa, mamma," not knowing the many sweet little songs and verses which your youngest sister a dozen years later learned in the Kindergarten, and sings so happily now.

Viewed from a spiritual standpoint, music is the *archway* that leads to the higher life, and is at the same time the *key* that opens its portals.

No child can long and persistently resist its influence, and if Mrs. Lewis had not kept up day after day telling Robbie, "Now, darling, you will surely sing to day, Miss Mary, please do not give him any merit if he does not sing," the little fellow would not but be the exception to all your previous experiences, as he now is, to desist in not singing during the opening and closing exercises.

It is quite evident that he is a little tyrant at home, and that he is well aware of his power in spite of his mother's asserting the fact that her word is law to him, but that she does not expect it of him to "mind" any one else.

The wise Kindergarten and the wise mother also does very little commanding to a little child, especially is she loth to ask him to do what is absolutely distasteful to him, unless his safety requires it, and even then she rather devises means for removing the danger without many words pro or con.

You say that whenever Robbie's mamma gives him the above injunction, he shuts his mouth with a determined air; and it is no part of your business when she so decidedly spoils it for you, to bring about a scene before all the children and pursue a course so entirely contrary to the Kindergarten philosophy.

She also complains to you that he does not want to come, and she has to make him; here again her judgment no doubt is at fault and she seems mostly to succeed in arousing his self will and passion instead of possessing the art of training his strong will in the right direction. A child must not be made to think that every word he says is of the utmost importance, though in reality it may be to the conscious mother heart, or to the loving Kindergarten.

Only yesterday another mother told me that her little daughter said to her in the morning, "I do not want to go to the Kindergarten this morning." "Very well, Mary, you need not go to day," and she went about her work simply adding, "I wonder what they will be doing there to day."

As the time drew near Mary asked for her lunch basket.

"Oh! I only wanted to see what you would say," she exclaimed, laughing, when she observed her mother's wondering eyes. "I do want to go to school."

It would not have been a difficult matter to fan the spirit of opposition into a bright flame in little Mary!

But I must close. As to the matter of merits I do not see how any one need to find fault with you for giving them, since you make each child understand that it is not given them as a reward for being good, but only that papa and mamma may know, when they see the little card, that their pet has tried to be very kind and obedient at school. Write again soon to

Ever yours sincerely,

LOUISE POLLOCK.

706 Eleventh Street, Washington.

Ventilation.

It is not necessary to state the very large amount of air that ought to be introduced every minute for the use of a body of forty scholars. It is, however, pertinent to remark that the ordinary means of ventilating rooms are totally inadequate to this case. A stove will exhaust air enough for only one person, and there is no practicable way of securing our object in this severe climate without special and large provision, both for warming air and for exhausting it through flues by suction. In almost every point the methods commonly used in our best schools are defective. The air entering through cracks and doors, though large in amount, does not supply the demand; the use of the patent main ventilator does not ensure good air, in my experience, though it does much to mitigate matters. The heated air from registers is usually damaged by contact with cast-iron furnace plates. The stoves used in school-rooms often have the same fault as furnaces, namely, they permit the transfer of the gases of combustion into the room, and even if made tight, a gust of wind often sends a puff of poisonous vapor down the chimney and often out of the stove door. The ducts or flues for ventilation are usually miserably small and badly placed; their outlet is sometimes in the attic, and what is an almost universal fault, there is no provision made for an exhaust, no suction is applied to ensure a draught from the rooms. As far as I know, there is no proper method of ventilating school-rooms (when windows are closed) except that of large air flues communicating directly with a straight shaft of brick, in which a fire, or a coil with steam or hot water, is kept to procure a draught. Steam power may be economically applied with the same object. It is well to have a name for this method; we will therefore speak of it as the method by exhaustion, as distinguished from the method by propulsion. In ventilating by propulsion, air is warmed, mixed with a proportion of cool air, and forced by a steam fan through pipes and condense into the rooms. It is generally a

wasteful and dangerous method, besides often failing in its object. In the case of the Boston City Hospital it has been entirely given up, it being found that much good air leaked out in its transit through thousands of feet of tubes, and much foul air leaked in from neighboring drains in underground regions, which seriously affected the rate of mortality among surgical patients.

It has often been questioned how high in the walls the openings of the air ducts ought to be placed. Of course they may be put in the floors, but as before remarked, they are liable in this situation to become waste-baskets for the scholars and dust-holes for the woman that sweeps. But there are two theories in favor, respectively, of a low and of a high situation for the outlets for foul air, which we may notice in this part of our remarks. According to the one, all foul air emanating from the lungs is highly charged with carbonic acid gas, and therefore, as the gas in question is heavier than air, the foul air forms a layer at the bottom of the room. According to the other, the expired air is heated to 98 degrees Fahrenheit, and therefore must ascend to the ceiling in virtue of its superior levity. Both theories are based on fact, and both are nearly useless, because they neglect a third fact which is, that a very few minutes suffice that to distribute or diffuse any gas to all parts of the room in nearly equal proportions, no matter where it has been introduced. The children's breath, therefore, issuing warm from the lungs, ascends to the ceiling, but on its way upwards it distributes its vapors and gases to each successive layer of air it encounters. So that it is well to have the ventilating flue brought straight down in the wall to the floor, or near it, and one opening made near the latter, and another at the ceiling. A room requires two flues, of a sectional area of $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet each, for the exhaust method of ventilation. They are placed remote from each other and from the place where heated air enters. A ventilator at the ceiling, directly over a hot-air register is a fault sometimes observed, absurd as it appears.

In regard to the supply of warm air, he it remarked first, that opinions differ widely as to the proper heat for a school-room. The President of the Mass. Board of Health considers 70 degrees as proper. Varrentrapp, whose article is of very great value, says that "a thermometer distant ten feet from the stove and five feet above the floor ought not to mark over 15 degrees R."—that is, 65 $\frac{1}{2}$ degrees F. Ficker states 14 R. (equals 64 degrees F.) as the proper temperature. Morin says, "In well ventilated places, with a constant change of air, higher temperatures can be easily borne, and even be found pleasant, than those which would be found oppressive where the air is not changed. Nevertheless, the internal temperature should not be kept above the following points.

Nurseries, asylums and schools.....	60 degrees.
Workshops, barracks, prisons.....	60 degrees.
Hospitals.....	61-64 degrees.

"The fresh air introduced should generally

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STUDENT'S REUNION.

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have about the temperature it is desired to maintain in the room, as soon as this is sufficiently warmed". . . . unless there are many windows, or other sources of waste of heat—most physicians will admit, however, that 66 degrees is warm enough. Many persons of the age of fifty and upwards, consuming little food, taking little exercise, and therefore generating an imperfect supply of bodily warmth, are chilly if the air falls below 70 degrees; some of my acquaintance desire 80 degrees in order to enjoy perfect comfort; and if the head of the school happens (as is so often the case) to belong to one of these classes, the scholars will suffer from excess of heat, if the furnaces are powerful, while the influence of a robust and deep chested master is as invigorating, during our parched and torrid January weather, as a blast of sea air in August. Such a master will have his windows open, if no other way will serve, and in moderate weather this is certainly better than over-heating.

And windows are an essential thing, not only as supplying light, but in their etymological sense, as wind-doors. School-rooms cannot be expected to be so well ventilated by shafts and ducts as not to require a daily thorough airing out after school. This is an expensive measure, of course; so is all ventilation.

A very great deal of heat is lost, to no good purpose, by the chilling action of windows. Double windows are, therefore, a valuable economical feature, but they ought to open at top and bottom, inside and out. A double window, of which the outer lower sash is raised, and the inner upper sash is slightly lowered, affords a certain amount of pure air, warmed to some extent by its contact with the inner panes.—DR. LINWEN.

My visit to Philadelphia and the Centennial.

MACHINERY HALL.

As I entered this building my attention was attracted by the huge Krupp gun, one of the largest in the world, and said to be capable of throwing a missile with such force, as to penetrate the armor of the most formidable iron clad afloat. Passing on, I saw numerous objects of interest, prominent among which are mechanics' tools, sewing machines, implements of war, models of steamships, locomotives, hydraulic pumps,

paper boats, and the manufacture of watches, paper, carpet, silk handkerchiefs, and book-marks of beautiful design. I was also much interested in the huge Corliss engine, which forms one of the principal features of this exhibition, and keeps in motion the immense lines of shafting extending through the building. After seeing as much of Machinery Hall as the time would permit, I left it and entered the

MAIN BUILDING.

As I entered this immense structure, my attention was for a moment absorbed in the beautiful sight which met my view. The long, broad aisles, were bordered with many varieties of beautiful exhibits from all parts

of the world, and formed a remarkably rare and interesting scene.

Passing on, I commenced to examine things in detail beginning with Italy.

The Italian exhibit is very interesting, and, as I subsequently found, surpasses that of many other European countries. It includes elegant mirrors, tables of highly polished marble very tastefully inlaid, a collection of mosaics, an ebony bureau inlaid with mother-of-pearl, a large display of jewelry, gold and silver trays, baskets and fans, and a large oval slab of polished black marble inlaid with mother-of-pearl representing the Cathedral of Milan by moonlight. This is a beautiful piece of work, the moon-lit portions of

the cathedral being represented by mother-of-pearl of a silvery color.

Many of the statues on this Cathedral (said to number three thousand) are visible. Passing on, I next came to the exhibit of Norway and Sweden, which consists mostly of the skins and furs of the polar bear, seal, reindeer and other animals of northern climes, porcelain, silver ware and wax figures.

There is also a collection of antiquities comprising ancient weapons, and gold coins, several of the latter being two or three times as large as our double eagle. Leaving these relics of the middle ages, and crossing the main aisle I found myself surrounded by the finest work of the "Celestials," who have made a remarkable display of their ingenuity. Among the numerous curious and interesting things here to be seen may be mentioned the large display of porcelain ware, the magnificent Chinese bedstead of carved wood inlaid with ivory, numerous inlaid rosewood tables, an elephant's tusk carved from end to end with a variety of curious designs, and a beautiful finely carved ivory pagoda. In addition to these are numerous boxes and screens highly polished and japanned. I next proceeded to examine the display of Russia, which is large and in some parts very interesting. It includes fine furs, an elegant display of silver ware and numerous gilded cases containing musical instruments, dress goods, and perfumery. There is also a large display of furniture and gilded tables with tops of a beautiful highly polished green

STUDENT'S REUNION. Concluded.

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THE LORD'S PRAYER.

From SILVER CAROLS, the new Day School Singing Book, by permission of publishers, W. W. Whitney, Toledo, Ohio.

stone called malachite. These tables are exceeding costly one of which I noticed was valued at \$2,400.

When I had finished my examination of these tables, I noticed it was getting late, and that many visitors were leaving the grounds.

I soon followed their example and, getting on a car rode to Philadelphia. During the evening I took a walk through several of the principal streets of the city, and as every thing was entirely new to me I was much pleased with what I saw.

PHILADELPHIA.

Early the next morning, I walked up Market street to the new City Hall, now in course of construction at the junction of Market and

Broad streets. This building is very large, it occupies an entire square and when completed will probably be the largest and the handsomest building in the city. Directly north of this building and facing Broad st. is the Masonic Temple, a large and elegant structure with two towers, the highest of which is said to be two hundred and fifty feet above the ground.

Passing on through Broad street I was informed that the races on the Schuylkill, commenced that day, also that the Knights of Pythias, numbering about 12000 were to parade that morning. I immediately determined to see the latter and patiently awaited their approach.

After an hour had elapsed, the head of the column appeared, and when most of them had passed, I followed the remainder over the entire line of march. When the procession was over, I found there was yet time to see the boat race, and hurried toward the steamer which was to go to the race course. The boat arrived at the race course just in time for the passengers to see the end of the first race, which was won by the Atlanta crew of New York. On landing, I climbed a high bank where I saw the four remaining races, all of which were won by New York crews. After the races were over, I returned by the steamer to the Fairmount Water Works, where I obtained a fine view of the Schuylkill, the Centennial grounds, and Philadelphia, by ascending a steep path to the reservoir, located on a hill in the pleasant part of Fairmount Park. I visited

THE UNITED STATES MINT,

where the operatives were busily engaged in making gold and silver coins of various denominations. On the first floor there are three large rooms in which the various processes of manufacture are carried on.

In the first, the metal is melted, in the second it is rolled into the desired thickness and cut into strips, and in the third it is coined and placed in boxes. On the second floor is a large collection of ancient and modern coins, the former including several Jewish coins as the shekel, penny and widow's mite, also several dating as far back as B. C. 520. Among those of recent date are the coins of many European and Asiatic countries, also a collection of United States coins ranging in value from one cent to twenty dollars, and bearing dates from 1793 to 1876. After a hasty examination of these coins, I left the building and, getting on a car rode to the Centennial grounds. (I entered the Main Building and resumed my examination of the exhibits of foreign countries commencing with Austria and Hungary).

THE CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION AGAIN.

The most noticeable of the Hungarian Dept's is the brilliant Bohemian cut glass, in addition to which should be mentioned meerschau pipes, porcelain ware, oil paintings, elegant furniture and fine embroideries. Adjoining the display of Austria is that of Germany, which is quite large and contains numerous objects of interest, prominent among which is the large display of organs, musical boxes, brass instruments, and pianos, also bronze statues, silver ware, cutlery, stained glass, velvet of various hues, beautiful painted statuary, and a perfect model of a Hamburg steamship, which is divided so as to show the engines, boilers, storage rooms, state rooms etc. North of the main aisle and directly opposite the display of Germany is the exhibit of Great Britain and Ireland, which, next to the United States, occupies more space than that of any other country. It contains a great variety of dress goods including the famous Irish poplin. There are also numerous articles for the convenience and instruction of mankind among which are gold watches, Sheffield cutlery, philosophical instruments, books, stoves and ranges, machine needles, &c. But especially noteworthy is Elkington & Co's silver ware-exhibit, which faces the main aisle and is situated in close proximity to the music stand. It in-

cludes two large gold and silver vases of beautiful design with stands to match, two complete coats of mail decorated with cupids heads and flowers tastefully blended together, an elegant chess table with chess worth \$1000 gold, a gold and silver stand with pitcher and cups to match, and the Helicon Vase, the subject of which is "The triumph of music and poetry." The material of which this vase is made is silver and steel, and its value \$30,000 gold.

In addition to these are numerous smaller articles which form a fine display.

East of the exhibit of Great Britain is that of France, which rivals the former, though different in many respects. Among the more noteworthy of her exhibits are large mirrors, fine lace goods, gilded chandeliers, carriages, fine porcelain ware, (including a fac simile of Martha Washington's tea set) and several large pieces of beautiful tapestry worked entirely by hand, each piece containing three thousand different shades, and valued at \$4700 each. Adjoining this display, are two cases containing Geneva watches, several of which are so minute as to cause exclamations of surprise from the crowd around them.

One of these curiosities is an ordinary sized gold penholder, in the end of which is a stem-winding calendar watch with three dials showing the time, day of the week, and day of the month. Each dial is so small that a magnifying glass is placed over it to enable people to see the figures on the dial plate. Besides this is another very small watch which, in comparison to a gold quarter dollar, was found to be the smaller of the two. The exhibit of the United States is much larger and in some respects much superior to that of any other country.

The numerous important inventions and improvements by American citizens together with the great varieties of manufactures form a display very creditable to the United States, and worthy of the admiration of every visitor. The first thing in this display that attracted my attention, was the exhibit of various styles of fine clothing by New York and Philadelphia firms. One firm exhibits a wax figure representing Emperor William of Germany in military uniform.

Passing on I soon became interested in the large display of safes, adjoining which is a display of firearms, including guns, and pistols, with the latest improvements. As the time drew near for visitors to retire from the buildings, I glanced hastily at the display of dry goods, and leaving the enclosure started toward Philadelphia. In the evening I passed the time in walking leisurely through the principal streets of the city stopping to observe every object of interest with which I come in contact. On the following morning, I visited the grave of Benjamin Franklin, and Christ's Church which was attended by Washington, Franklin, Lafayette, and other Revolutionary heroes during their stay in Philadelphia.

I also visited Independence Hall, the birth place of American liberty and independence. As I entered the edifice, I was surprised to find how few were the traces of age on its walls. I first entered the room in which the Declaration of Independence was signed, and read the original Declaration, written by Thomas Jefferson, and signed by the members of Congress in 1776. The signatures are nearly all effaced by time, that of John Hancock being alone discernable.

Besides this, are several chairs and a table used at the time of the signing of the Declaration. In another room is a large collection of Revolutionary relics including the old Independence Bell, drums and flags from battlefields, chairs used by General Washington, and numerous other articles. On leaving this historical edifice, I immediately started for the Centennial grounds, and entering the Main Building resumed the pleasant task of seeing the display of the United States.

As I entered the structure I glanced at

the large display of books, pens, pencils &c., and passed on to things of greater interest. The first thing that attracted particular attention, was a monstrous carving knife with a fork to match. The knife measures about eight feet in length, the handle is made of bone carved with various designs. Near by is a beautiful mantle piece of Mexican Onyx, now the property of Emperor William of Germany.

THE UNITED STATES EXHIBIT.

The silverware and jewelry exhibit of the United States, surpasses that of any other country in variety, elegance, and value, and must be seen to be appreciated. Starr & Marcus of Philadelphia, exhibit a remarkably fine collection of gems, among which are cameos, pearl necklaces, a beautiful butterfly of diamonds, and rubies, and a necklace containing fifty-seven diamonds. Near by is the display of Tiffany & Co., which is larger and if possible more elegant than the one already mentioned. It includes gold watches, cameos, pearl necklaces, vases, frosted pitchers and several articles of great value including a solitary diamond valued at \$8500, a pearl necklace priced \$2300, and a necklace containing twenty nine large diamonds valued at \$90000. The beautiful vase recently presented to our distinguished poet Mr. Bryant, is also on exhibition.

(Having made a complete tour of the Main Building, and seen many of the beautiful things this vast structure contains, I left it and directed my steps to the Art gallery and its annex).

THE ART GALLERY.

(These buildings probably contain the finest works of art ever exhibited in this country, and are constantly filled with a throng of delighted visitors. I shall not attempt to describe the beauties these structures contain but will say that I was greatly pleased with everything I saw.

The painting I most admired was the one representing the marriage of the Prince of Wales. Many of the personages represented in this picture are among the most distinguished statesmen of Europe.

The largest painting on exhibition is the one entitled "The Battle of Gettysburg." This painting occupies the entire end of a large room and vividly portrays the horrors of the battle.

The statuary in the Art Annex is very praiseworthy. It includes the master pieces of many famous sculptors, and excites the admiration of all visitors.

(After leaving the Art gallery I went to the Japanese bazar, where the almond-eyed Japanese was selling his merchandise at exorbitant prices. I examined the curious wares, and soon afterward left the grounds. The following morning on arriving at the Exhibition grounds, I visited all the State buildings, which were generally void of anything of special interest).

MISCELLANEOUS.

One exception was the Kansas and Colorado building, which contains samples of fresh fruit, grain, and minerals from those States also a very interesting collection of stuffed animals arranged so as to present a very life like appearance. (Leaving this building I next proceeded to Agricultural Hall. This structure, as its name indicates, is mostly used to display all kinds of agricultural implements, as well as the productions of the soil).

IN AGRICULTURAL HALL.

The exhibit of the United States, covers about three quarters of the entire space, although Germany, Austria, Holland, and several other European countries, have sent hither, large quantities of liquors, mustards, jams, jellies, and farming utensils. In the north-eastern corner of the building, is a fine display of candies. One firm exhibits a beautiful steeple-shaped structure made entirely by hand. Around the base are scenes representing "Washington crossing the Delaware," "Landing of the Pilgrims,"

Pocahontas saving the life of Captain John Smith," "Victory of Commodore Perry," "The capture of Ticonderoga," and equestrian statues of several Revolutionary heroes.

Within the structure is a representation of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, and above this is the Proclamation of Emancipation by President Lincoln. The features of Washington, Franklin, Perry and others are very distinct and are easily recognized.

A short distance from this sugar-temple is another of greater beauty.

Within the structure near the base a representation of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, above which is a group of distinguished personages including Washington, Franklin, Morse, Longfellow, Lafayette, Monroe and others.

At the base are figures representing Grant, Lee, Scott, McClellan, Meade, Burnside, Lincoln, Sherman and other distinguished Union generals, also several scenes similar to those in the one previously mentioned.

An old bald eagle which accompanied a Wisconsin regiment for three years during the Rebellion, is also on exhibition in Agricultural Hall.

(After leaving this building, I visited Horticultural Hall, the prettiest edifice on the grounds, and then walked through the beautiful garden in front to the woman's pavilion, which contains many beautiful specimens of women's work in the form of wax flowers, wearing apparel etc. Passing on toward the main entrance, I stopped for a moment at a small building where Egyptians were selling articles made of olive wood from Jerusalem. On leaving this building I left the Centennial grounds and, getting on a train started toward home much pleased with my visit to Philadelphia and the Centennial).

FRANK W. HAYWARD,

a pupil of Grammar School No. 20.

HON. NEIL GILMAN, Supt. of Public Instruction of this State, has issued a circular in reference to the amended law concerning habitual truants. He says:—The amended eighth section extends the time for the making of such "provisions, arrangements, rules and regulations" to the first of January, eighteen hundred and seventy-seven. Boards of education in cities in which arrangements for the care of habitual truants have not yet been made, should take action under the amended section at an early day, and schools commissioners in the several counties should proceed at once to ascertain whether the trustees in any town under their jurisdiction have neglected to take action in the matter. If they have, the attention of the town clerk should be called to his duties under the amended eighth section, which are to give ten days' notice to the school trustees in his town, of a meeting to make "provisions, arrangements, rules and regulations" respecting habitual truants.

School commissioners must insist that trustees report to them the number of children between the ages of eight and fourteen years, residing in their respective districts on the thirtieth of September, instant, and the number of such children who have attended school, or been instructed at home, for the period of at least fourteen weeks during the school year which ends on the thirtieth of September. Boards of education in cities are also requested to furnish such statistics with as much accuracy as possible.

If school officers perform their duties under the Compulsory Education Act, it is believed that the school attendance, which is now greater than ever before in our history, may be very considerably increased. I urge you, therefore, to work earnestly and faithfully in the matter of enforcing this law, and to stimulate and encourage trustees and other officers having duties to perform under it.

A Fire-Proof Suit.

Mr. Ostberg, a Swede, has been conducting some sensational experiments in London with a fire-proof suit. This is made in two layers, the inner one of india-rubber, the outer one of English leather, the head being protected by a helmet resembling that worn by divers. At the girdle is fixed a piece of hose, which serves both for air and water. The air-pipe, fed from two blowers, is placed inside the water-pipe, and brings the air, after being cooled by the surrounding water, into the inner part of the dress. The air inflates the costume, passing away through the two small openings made for eye-pieces. The current of air not only keeps the enclosed body cool, but drives smoke and flame away from the eyes. At the back the water-pipe divides, one branch serving as an extinguisher, the other passing into the outer coating of the dress, the stream being distributed over the whole outer surface. With the apparatus on, the experimenter stood in the middle of a pile of burning shavings and logs, without taking the least harm.—*Exchange.*

NEW DISCOVERIES AT POMPEII.

The city of Pompeii was completely buried up in the year 79, nearly 1800 years ago, by ashes from the neighboring volcano of Vesuvius. The ruins of the city were rediscovered in 1748. A recent discovery has been made there, consisting of a number of objects of gold and silver, and close to them the carbonized skeletons of two men, who would seem to have been borne down in the storm of ashes while endeavoring to escape with their valuables or plunder. Among the articles found are eight rings, six pieces of money, two pairs of ear-rings, two large armlets, each ornamented with thirteen pairs of half globes, with little shells upon them, held together by chain-work, and a necklace of chain-work all of gold; a silver ring, 333 pieces of silver money, a casseroles of the same material, broken in pieces, and three large bronze coins.

NEEDLES.—Needles were first made in London by a negro from Spain in the reign of Queen Mary. He died without imparting the secret of his art. The art was recovered in 1565. Elias Growse first taught the English to make needles, but the art was again lost for nearly a century, when it was recovered by Christopher Greening, who settled at Long Crendon, in Buckinghamshire. Needles are now chiefly made at Redditch, in Worcestershire; Hathersage, in Derbyshire, and in and near Birmingham. Some years ago one million needles a year were made in Redditch.

INFUSORIAL EARTH.—It has long been known that the polishing powder called "tripoli" consists of the remains of animalcules, sometimes of marine and at other times of fresh-water origin. At Bilin, in Bohemia, there is a bed of this material eighteen feet thick. Infusorial earth, as the deposit is called, is found largely in different parts of the world, and is now used for various purposes in the arts. Dynamite consists of infusorial earth saturated with nitro glycerine. Lately it has been used as a fertilizer in agriculture.

A QUESTION SETTLED.—When fruit trees grow near division lines, and the fruit falls over the fence upon a neighbor's land, the question may be asked, "To which party does the fruit belong?" In England it has been legally decided to belong to the owner of the tree, but he has no right to get it without asking permission, because he would be a trespasser. All he could legally do would be to ask permission to pick up his fruit, and if that he refused, he would be compelled to see if he and rot. Nor can the other party legally appropriate such fruit to his own use, but he can cut off every limb of his neighbor's trees which hangs over his ground, but he must be careful that he does not cut an inch beyond his line.

A LESSON FOR WIVES.

A gentleman holding a high official position in the courts of law in Paris, during the long vacation, went, in company with his wife, on a tour of pleasure in Belgium. After having travelled through this interesting country, they were returning home by the railway, the husband with his mind quite at rest, like a man blessed with an untroubled conscience, while the lady felt that uncomfortable sensation which arises from the recollection of some imprudence, or a dread of some approaching danger. When they were near the frontier, the lady could no longer restrain her uneasiness. Leaning towards her husband, she whispered to him—

"I have lace in my portmanteau—take it and conceal it, that it may not be seized."

"What! as a smuggler?" exclaimed the husband, with a voice between astonishment and affright.

"It is beautiful Malines lace, and cost a great deal," replied the lady. "We are not quite near the custom-house; hasten to conceal it."

"It is impossible; I cannot do it!" said the gentleman.

"On the contrary, it is very easy," was the reply. "The lace will fit in the bottom of your hat."

"But do you recollect," rejoined the gentleman, "the position I occupy?"

"But recollect," said the wife, "there is not an instant to lose, and this lace cost me 1,500 francs."

During the conversation the train rapidly approached the dreaded station. Imagine the consternation of the worthy magistrate, who had always been in the habit of considering things with calm and slow deliberation, thus unexpectedly placed in a position so embarrassing and so critical. Overcome and perplexed by his difficulties, and losing all presence of mind, he allowed his wife to put the lace in his hat, and, having placed it on his head, he forced it down almost to his ears, and then resigned himself to his fate. At this station the travelers were invited to come out of the carriage, and to walk into the room where the custom-house agents were assembled. The gentleman concealed his uneasiness as best he could, and handed his passport with an air of assumed indifference. When his position as a judge became known, the officials of the custom-house immediately hastened to tender their respects, and declared they considered it quite unnecessary to examine the luggage labeled with the name of one who occupied such a high and important situation in the State. Never had the magistrate more sincerely valued the respect attached to his position; and if a secret remorse for a moment disturbed his mind, at least he breathed more freely when he recollected the danger had passed, and that the violation of the revenue laws he had committed would escape discovery. With this comfortable assurance, and while a severe examination was passing on the property of other passengers, the head of the custom-house and the commander of the local gendarmerie, having heard of the arrival of so distinguished a person, came to offer him their respects. To their profound salutation the judge responded by immediately raising his hat with the utmost politeness. Could he do less? But, alas! in his polite obeisance, so rapid and so voluntary, he had forgotten the contents of his hat. He had scarcely raised it from his head when a cloud of lace rushed out, covering him from head to foot, as with a large marriage veil. What language can describe the confusion of the detected smuggler, the despair of the wife, the

amusement of the tonishment of the at the scene? The lie to be overlooked. sions of regret on the ties, the magistrate matter should be inv

ANCESTRY OF THE PEN.

The earliest mode of writing was on bricks, tiles, oyster shells, stones, ivory, bark, and leaves of trees, and from the latter the term "leaves of a book" is probably derived. Copper and brass plates were very early in use, and a bill of feoffment on copper was some years since discovered in India, bearing date one hundred years B. C.

Leather was also used, as well as wooden tablets. Then the papyrus came into vogue, and, about the eighth century the papyrus was superseded by parchment. Paper, however, is of great antiquity, especially among the Chinese; but the first paper mill in England was built in 1586 by a German, at Dartford, in Kent. Nevertheless, it was nearly a century and a half—namely in 1713—before Thomas Watkins, a stationer, brought paper-making to anything like perfection.

The first approach to a pen was the stylus, a kind of iron bodkin; but the Romans forbade its use on account of its frequent and even fatal use in quarrels, and then it was made of bone. Subsequently reeds, pointed and split, like pens of the present day, were used.

The Amazon River is navigable for 3,000 miles by vessels of large size. It has four tributaries, which are united by a network of natural canals. Two thousand miles from its mouth its channel has a depth of three fathoms, and for 2,600 miles there occurs no fall to interfere with the smooth passage of shipping.

The barometer is now found to be almost as useful to the coal miner as it is to the marine. The damage in coal mines, consequent especially on the sudden fall of the mercury in the barometer tube, is occasioned in this wise: When the glass is high and the pressure of the superincumbent atmosphere correspondingly great, the dangerous carburetted hydrogen is prevented from issuing from the walls and sides of the coal seam; when the pressure is suddenly lessened, the gas escapes from numberless chinks and crannies, and accumulating, sometimes very rapidly, until it reaches the proportion sufficient with common air to produce an explosive compound, the naked light that is harmless under more favorable conditions suddenly takes effect and a deadly catastrophe is the result. To the miner the barometer is indispensable.

An ingenious English invention, just brought forward, provides for boilers consuming their own smoke, without the aid of any elaborate apparatus. The plan is to bore, just above the fire door of the boiler, a couple of circular holes of about two and a half inches diameter, and then insert two pipes, which run at the top of the furnace for about one-third or half its distance. A small pipe connected with the boiler drives a jet of steam into each of the pipes, which thus creates two strong draughts of air. This air is rarefied by the steam, and is driven right into the centre of the flame and smoke from the furnace, thus precipitating the carbon and preventing the escape in those dense clouds which are so offensive to large cities.

THE FIERY LAKE.

A remarkable address has been delivered by Sir William Thompson in the Physical Section of the British Association on the subject of the fluid or solid nature of the earth's kernel. While not denying that certain portions of the earth's interior are in a molten or fluid state, Sir William Thompson maintained, on various more or less recondite grounds, that no large proportion of the earth's interior can by any possibility be in the condition of molten fluid.

"I may say, with almost perfect certainty, that whatever may be the relative densities of rock solid and melted, at or about the temperature of liquefaction, it is I think, quite certain that cold solid rock is denser than hot melted rock; and no possible degree of rigidity in the crust could prevent it from breaking in pieces and sinking wholly below the liquid lava. Something like this may have gone on and probably did go on for thousands of years after solidification commenced; surface portions of the melted material losing heat, freezing and sinking immediately, or growing to the thickness of a few metres where the surface would be cool, and the whole solid dense enough to sink.

"This process must go on until the sunk portions of crust build up from the bottom a sufficiently close-ribbed skeleton or frame to allow fresh incrustation to remain, bridging across the now small areas of lava-pools or lakes." That is a striking picture of the growth of the "round earth," which was once supposed to have been made from the first "so fast that it cannot be moved." We are rather sorry to be robbed of the belief in the central lava ocean after all.

THE EX-EMPRESS CHARLOTTE.

The *Lancet* gives a pathetic little history in a late number. Maximilian, Emperor of Mexico, closed his brief reign in the courtyard of Queretaro, where he was shot by the command of the late President Juarez, and ever since his widow, the ex-Empress Charlotte, has been a prey to acute melancholia—the proxysms of which however, were at first followed by intervals of partial return to reason. In these she was allowed to amuse herself—if amusement be the word for an occupation which turned upon the deepest tragedy—in writing the experiences of her husband and herself in their few months' sojourn in Mexico. This she has long abandoned, and in the chateau of Laeken, where she is under strict medical surveillance, she has relapsed into confirmed dementia, which her physicians have given up all hope of curing. As in similar cases, she recurs to the predilections of childhood, one of which was a passion for flowers, and Ophelia-like, she spends most of her time over them, feeding as they do her once lively by now diseased imagination. Their attraction for her was touchingly manifested the other day. Blinding the watch of her attendants, she had fled from the castle, but when overtaken, it was found impossible to induce her to return, except by the use of means which would certainly have proved hurtful. One of her physicians bethought himself of her morbid affection for flowers, and by strewing them from time to time before her, she was gradually lured on her way back to the chateau, where a closer surveillance has since been placed over her.

Invisible Power.

BY

A. J. H. DUGANNE.

CHAPTER I.

A MAN IN SEARCH OF POWER.

Our story is one of those strange recitals which embody incidents of human experience so marvellous that they seem apart from Nature's usual course, and yet are explained by natural laws, where such laws are traced to their beginning.

It was a very old landmark indeed—that brick-walled stable: a marble horse-trough imbedded under its north-east angle bearing the date of 1691.

Hollyhocks and glaring sunflowers peeped over the high fence in summer. But when snow fell in winter the enclosed ground remained white until March suns came.

No footpath ever appeared in the open plot. The man who lived on the place confined his tenancy to the stable; which he and his wife entered by a narrow side door, after passing a gate in the board-fence at its rear.

All that tradition said about the property was dim and mysterious. In the days of King George, an English settler owned it, and left it to his son, who was killed in the Revolution.

There the old ground was, with only that stable on it, and so it had been for fifty years at least. The owners lived in Europe; and the only revenue collected from their domain on that street corner was a nominal rent, to cover taxes, for which a poor family had been permitted to occupy the stable during the last twelve years.

And there, plodding away, in pursuit of a single object in life, dwelt Saul Macy, an inventive genius, who fancied that he should, some day or another, discover a hidden motive-power that would supersede steam and caloric.

Year in and year out, this Yankee machinist had toiled, early and late, to obtain bread for his wife and child, and a few dollars to aid him in his tireless experiments.

A MAN IN SEARCH OF POWER!

CHAPTER II.

A MAN'S WIFE.

When Saul Macy, nineteen years before our story begins, married Susie Hooper, the daughter of an old Salem sea-captain, he had some thousands of dollars in bank, and a pretty cottage to make a home for both. When a year afterwards, the young machinist invented his patent rock-drill, and entered into partnership with a capitalist, to sell "rights," everybody said that Yankee would make a big fortune. But, when, in a few years more, the "capitalist" failed, and left Saul Macy to settle with creditors, public opinion remarked:—"I told you so!" and set that Yankee down as a speculator.

Susie bowed her young head over the baby's cradle; and a woman's natural tears sometimes fell on that casket of love. But she never showed Saul any traces of tears.

Saul Macy scraped together what few dollars he could save from the wreck of his home. Two years he struggled like other poor mechanics, in work one season; out of work the next; until, at last, he became so reduced, through no fault of his own, that he was obliged to choose between a room in some tenant house, or the privilege of making an old stable habitable for his wife and child, at a rent which he could hope to pay.

So, it was, the Inventor became tenant of that old landmark; and Susie there brought up her daughter, from the age of four years; until, at sixteen, the young girl was fitted to take a position as assistant teacher in a country seminary.

And so it was, that, during their twelve years of hard poverty, Saul Macy continued his search for the INVISIBLE POWER.

Until now, at the close of a wintry day, the husband stood beside a small furnace he had built in a recess of the old wall; while Susie sat on a low stool near him, mending his best coat; and watching his face with the same look of love she had shyly bent on him eighteen years before, under the rose-covered windows of their cottage home.

"Poor child!" Saul thought to himself, when he caught her wifely gaze, so pitiful, as the sweat rose beaded on his forehead, and the grime of charcoal could not hide the anxious expression of his countenance. "I'll make her rich yet!"

"Poor man!" Susie said in her heart,

"He'll work himself to death trying to find that Power."

But she kept back the sigh which struggled up, and Saul saw only a smile on her face, as she spoke to him.

"Husband, dear, rest a little bit! I'm sure you're tired, and must want your supper. Can't I set the tea-kettle until it boils?"

"No, no! not for the world, just now, pet! I couldn't spare an inch of this heat, you know!"

"Oh, Saul! your poor head will ache, stooping over that furnace so long. All this blessed day, since ten o'clock! And not a morsel have you eaten, love!"

Saul lifted his "poor head," so quickly, and with such a smile, that Susie's heart jumped, with an impression that he might, after all, be successful in his experiments.

"I must cook this last stew," said the Inventor, "before I have an appetite fit anything. You know, pet, you can boil the tea-kettle over my spirit-lamp!"

"Ah!" said careful Susie, "That would be wasting the alcohol, and you might want it. What a pity we haven't a place to set the kettle on, next your pot! Oh, dear Saul! see how it's shaking! And, O! what a buzz it makes! Maybe it'll burst, like the other one did! Goodness!"

"Yes!" said her husband, regarding his rocking copper boiler, with a satisfied look, as he folded his large arms. "I've made a combination this time more powerful than that witch-broth in Macbeth! You know all about that, little Shakspeare!"

Susie blushed at her husband's compliment; for she was a great reader of Shakspeare; and, in reply, she repeated:—

"Double, double, toil and trouble—
Fire burn and water bubble!"

"Look there! look there, wife!" exclaimed Saul; pointing to their stable-wall, which was visibly moving, as their furnace below now roared under intense heat.

"Sakes alive!" cried Susie. "I do believe it will blow up. Saul! Oh! do stop it! We'll have another explosion, like last Fourth of July!"

"Oh! that was our celebration, you know!" laughed her husband. "Don't you remember, the baker's boy got over our fence, to see where my cannon-firing came from?"

"Yes! and you had trouble enough mending the roof, a week afterwards, when that rain-squall beat in through a big crack!"

"Well, Susie! it has been weather-tight ever since, you know. Captain Hooper couldn't find a leak in our ship now, wife!"

"Dear father!" said the captain's daughter, with a tear in her eye. "I must answer his letter to-night. My good old father!"

A loud crack, as part of the old wall bulged out, made Susie scream outright, and she clasped her husband's arm. "Saul, dear!" she implored. "Do open that furnace door. We've had three accidents from those dangerous gases. I'm afraid it's tempting the Lord!"

"If I haven't got POWER working there, Susan Macy, then I do not know what power is! Now, don't scare, my little girl! Let me show you something!"

He gently disengaged her clasping hand from his sinewy arm; and Susie, with half averted eyes, stepped a pace back, holding the coat she had been mending, with her needle and thread sticking in it.

That patient wife never "threw cold water" on her husband's enthusiasm, though she had known him to be so often disappointed. So she waited, trembling a little, as she saw the furnace and its framework of fire-brick heaving up and down, and the strong old Dutch masonry of their stable-wall quivering as if some force was lifting its foundation. All thought of boiling her tea-kettle, over that angry fire, or near those dangerous gases, as she called them, was banished from her mind.

Something unusual, in the experiment Saul, watched, was manifest even to her woman's perception.

No wonder, as she looked timidly at him and noticed his usually firmer lips twitching with his excitement, that she instinctively stretched out her hand again, to pull him from the furnace.

"Oh! husband! come away from it! I am sure it will burst!"

Saul's gray eyes turned upon her seriously, and he motioned with one hand, that she should move further off, while, with the other hand, he pressed hard upon the valve which regulated his boiler, so as to increase, instead of diminishing, the power of that new force he was testing.

The chaldron rocked; the furnace roared; the old wall shook, as if it would rise and throw the tiled roof away from those caken rafters which upheld it. That marble manager, in which Saul had built his fire-bricks,

by bedding them in its cavity, with plaster of Paris, now bulged out of its setting in the wall, as if a lever were applied behind it.

Susie could not repress a sharp cry, as she saw her daring husband shut on the fierce heat, under his regulator. But Saul's voice was calm, as he spoke to her.

"Fear nothing, wife!" said the Inventor. "I have barred the lid so that it cannot be forced up! The power is now working below, as I want it to work! See, Susie! it is a steady power: I could move this house to Harlem with it, I'm sure, with a proper cut-off, or—"

The man, in his pride of discovery, flung his clenched hand up, and stood, like one defying all consequences.

"Or, I can let its force on, and move this island of Manhattan!"

Susie Macy, only daughter of a brave New England sire, was as courageous a little woman as we ordinarily meet with. But when she heard those bold words on her husband's lips, and marked that reddish light in his blue-gray eyes, her heart stood still; for the dread that, perhaps, his mind might be giving way, came over her like a chill. She felt reassured, however, immediately; for he continued, with less vehemence:—

"Susie, darling, please God! our days of poverty will soon be over. Go, my wife, and kneel down by our bed. Pray for your husband, while I watch this Power!"

His eyes no longer burned with that red glare. Transient fervor of imagination was succeeded by steady purpose of thought. Saul Macy was a practical man; and never fancied there could be poetry in either Susie or himself; nor was either of them aware of that deep and natural sentiment, surpassing all written poetry, which they imprinted next moment on each other's lips; the wife's arms about her husband's neck, their faithful hearts beating together.

Susie turned from the seven-fold heated furnace, and that surging wall which held it, and went quickly toward their bed, in an opposite angle of the wide room, which had only a small apartment partitioned off; a nursery room it had been, that Saul constructed ten years before, and which had been their young daughter's chamber until she left home.

Their bed stood against the partition, which only rose about eight feet; and at the bed-side Susie knelt, and began to pray, while Saul watched his power. She prayed the prayer she had prayed, morning and night, from her babyhood; but, in the midst of it, thunder seemed to shake the heavens about her, and darkness fell around. Her prayer was ended.

CHAPTER III.

POWER IS FOUND.

Poverty sometimes protects the poor, even as it oppresses. Had Saul Macy been a college "scientist," experimenting with acids and alkalis, retorts and crucibles, in some laboratory replete with "chemicals," he might have blown up a University building full of students, together with his own professorship. As it was, our Inventor's lack of scientific means, and lack of means generally, which inconvenienced him at times, now prevented a catastrophe. That strong-walled old stable, and its high rafters, allowed his "power" to expend itself without demolishing everything; and, although Saul Macy lay stretched amidst the ruins of his work; with a fragment of marble weighing on his chest, his face covered with blood, and his eyes closed in a stupor, the Inventor; was not dead; and his house was not blown to atoms; as might have been the result, under more expensive chemical conditions.

But another body lay prone upon that stone flooring by the bed-side. Poor Susie's eyes were closed, and her fond heart stilled; so that neither wife nor husband could respond to a loud knocking which soon resounded at a gate which barred admittance, through the rear fence, to that enclosure wherein the stable stood.

No door opened into the stable out of the back street on which it abutted; but the fence gate was close to a side-entrance from the vacant lot; and the fence gate was barred inside. So, if a stranger had come that hour, while Saul and Susie lay insensible, he would have, probably, gone away without seeing them. It was no stranger, however, who knocked so loudly and persistently; for it was Mr. McArdle, the house agent, who came punctually on Friday nights, to collect his dollar, which Susie always had ready for him, whether a crust of bread remained in her cupboard or not. Mr. McArdle was a Scotchman, and liked punctuality, and he had never knocked at that yard gate before without obtaining immediate admittance. Consequently, when

he had alarmed all the tenement house people, on the opposite side-walk, and collected a crowd of urchins about him, he began to think something was the matter with his stable tenants.

Just then an old tenement house mother, after knocking the heads of two unruly children together, abruptly sniffed the air, and cried out, "I smell smoke; Macy's house is on fire!"

"Over the fence, one of you boys," commanded Mr. McArdle; and a dozen juveniles, who liked the fun, were straddling that boarded barrier in a moment. The first over quickly unbarred the gate, and Mr. McArdle entered the lot, and tried Macy's door, which yielded at once.

"Fire! fire!" exclaimed a lad; as smoke rolled out of the open door. McArdle caught a glimpse of fire; but he saw something else beside it; the form of Macy, as he had fallen; with blood flowing under his brown hair.

Pressing over the threshold, and, with a rapid glance, taking in the situation, he saw that nothing was to be apprehended from fire; for there was hardly wood-work enough inside to make a blaze high enough to inflame those solid oak rafters. As a prudent Scotchman, therefore, who disliked tumult, his first care was to administer a cuff to that officious child who vociferated "fire!" And then, charging heavily upon the boy's comrades, he bundled them promiscuously out of the enclosure, and shot the bar behind them. "You'll no be wanted here; and there's no house on fire for ye!" was his sharp admonition to them, accompanied by an up-raised cane which some of them had felt about their legs before that day. Thus left to himself, the house agent proceeded to look after Saul Macy, whom he soon brought to consciousness under the application of cold water.

Day had not faded from the February sky; and the glare of burning charcoal on the stone floor, was reflected by streaks of sunlight stealing through a window of the stable, which looked to the west. And when Saul Macy, after McArdle washed the blood from his eyes, opened them upon his surroundings again, the first sight that he encountered was the figure of his wife, lying dead, as he thought, at the foot of their bed, where he had last beheld her praying for him.

All sense of weakness, or any other concern but his own Susie, was impossible then. The stricken man was on his feet, and stooping over his wife, before Mr. McArdle could divine his motive. When the honest Scotchman turned farther his own vision, he saw his tenant holding Susie in his arms, and wildly searching for her heart, to discover if it yet throbbed; for her face was pallid as death.

"Thank God! it beats!" cried the husband. And then, as McArdle went to them, a faint flush rose on the woman's cheek. Though her eyes remained shut, her lips murmured:—

"Saul, dear! come away! it will burst!"

"Blessed wife!" was Macy's low response. And he kissed that dear mouth which, even under mental wandering, was opened in solicitude for him. Satisfied, then, of her safety, and that no missile had prostrated her, he laid her upon the bed, and sprinkled her face with the water McArdle brought. Presently Susie was able to speak coherently, and understand that her husband was safe; and then Saul busied himself, dashing water upon a couple of rafters which had taken fire; without bestowing a thought upon the bleeding wound on his forehead.

McArdle's business at the stable that night was more than ordinary collection of Macy's little rent. He had received orders from the proprietor in Europe to place the property in market; and, in accordance with such orders the house-agent was obliged to notify his tenant of twelve years, that he might have to move at any moment.

"So we shall have no home, husband!" said poor Susie, when McArdle departed.

"No home!"

She silently wept.

CHAPTER IV.

WEALTH—IMMENSE POWER.

"But, I've got it at last, wife!" said Saul Macy. "I was just figuring for a cut-off, when all went off, like a rocket! But what signifies that! It's an immense Power!"

"Oh, Saul!" said Susie. "How can you think you have got it, when it acted like that, and nearly killed you, poor dear man?" She began to weep again.

"Pshaw, Susie! don't cry over spilt milk. Plenty more power where that came from! I had it under my thumb, I tell you; and just imagine what it did, fairly lifted the building! Look at that

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The columns of the JOURNAL are open for discussions of subjects pertaining to education. Let those who have practical skill communicate it to others.

We present in this number the first part of an interesting tale by Col. A. J. Duganne, well known from his long connection with the Tribune. It deals with INFLUENCE and that especially which has its source in the intellect. The author is too well known to meet any commendation at our hands; his writings are always read and admired.

There may be some readers of the JOURNAL who feel no interest in fiction, but the majority of them like the majority of the world "like a good story."—Besides, many of our readers take no other paper than the JOURNAL, living at remote distances from us, presiding with undisputed sway in school-houses on lonely roadsides, they will give a warm welcome to an interesting story and devote Saturday morning to a perusal of it.

A reduction in the cost of School Books is one of the reforms demanded by the people. The price of many of the books is out of proportion to their value not only but to the purses of the parents. There seems to be a strife of late years to issue school books in sumptuous style. Our best artists have been called in to illustrate them, and notably fine paper has been employed. It is a serious question whether nearly all of this is not wasted. In a short time the elegant cuts are smeared by unwashed hands and the book looks no better than if its cost was less. In some quarters there has been a searching for second-hand books, and dealers in these report quick sales for school-books. A good many questions might be discussed, whether books need illustrations, or whether plainness and cheapness does not become a republic where the children of the poor are the many?—But we forbear.

Every city or town of 5000 inhabitants needs a superintendent to manage its schools. To secure good instruction to 1000 children, to use the money expended with economy and effectiveness one person, man or woman, should give enough time to superintendence to secure unity of effort and thoroughness of instruction. Many towns consider money thrown away that is so used, and require a principal teacher to devote his whole time to class instruction. A case in point. A lady is the superintendent. She has twelve classes to oversee. She examines each with thoroughness every week and makes a report. She has inspired her schools with her own fidelity and earnestness. The School officers feel that the \$600 she receives is well spent. The affairs of education are made a business in that town. It will pay everywhere to superintend education—except Philadelphia.

There is a good deal said about reducing teachers' salaries, and many of the noblest and best doers of the work of the

world will endure suffering, and the hands on the clock of progress be turned back many degrees. Is there no remedy for all this? Yes, yes, we answer. And how? Why, good friends, you have done nothing to stay the ball after rolling it up the hill. You have done nothing to develop and fortify public opinion. What do the temperance people do to create a sentiment in favor of temperance? What do politicians do to help their side win? Speakers, writers. Exactly. Go to then. Let the teachers begin in every town and have lectures on education. Talk it up. It can never be agitated too much. Before the wave overwhelms you renovate public opinion. Write articles for the JOURNAL and other papers and purchase copies and send abroad. In this way the FREE SCHOOL CAMPAIGN was fought. But do not sit idly down. Send out more light, more light, MORE LIGHT.

PRINCIPALS' LIFE ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION.

The organization of this Association is now complete. We give the names of the officers. The initiation fee is \$1.00; assessment at each death is \$10.00; the membership is limited to 250; it has now over 70 members.

President, John M. Forbes. Vice-President, Clara M. Edmonds. Secretary, Henry C. Litchfield. Treasurer, Geo. H. Albro. Board of Managers—Josiah H. Zabriskie, Henry C. Martin, J. Elias Whitehead, N. P. Beers, Frances J. Pond, Hugh Carlisle, Salome Purroy, Ed. H. Boyer, Elijah Howland, J. D. Hyatt, Wm. J. Kennard. Auditing Com.—N. P. Beers, Frances J. Pond, Elijah Howland.

CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY SCHOOLS.

The first "Teachers' Meeting" of the above society for the new school year was held Oct. 28, at the Cottage Place Industrial School, 304 Bleeker street. There were present the Superintendent, J. W. Skinner, M. Dupuy, Supt. 11th Ward Boys' Lodging House, and Heyer M. Nexen, Esq. About two thirds of the teachers were present.

The first thing which met the eye when entering the room was a blackboard filled with names, called the Roll of Honor for two months. This proved to be the names of those teachers who for two months had been at their post either at or before 9.45 A. M. Mr. Nexen occupied the floor during the hour, explaining a better and more rational method of teaching numbers. The special point brought before the teacher's notice was the manner in which large examples could be performed in addition and subtraction, and at the same time avoid the carrying process.

PROMOTION.

Miss J. Albutis, First Assistant in the Rivington Street (Industrial) School, as Principal 11th Street Industrial School, vice Miss Van Vorst (married). We desire to express our gratification over this promotion, as Miss Albutis has earned it by the most faithful and rigid attendance to duty, punctuality in attendance, and also a natural fitness for the position of Principal.

Grammar School No. 23.

This school is situated near the two large schools at Five Points, and suffers somewhat—especially when clothing and food are given by them, as well as instruction. This works an unfortunate reduction in the teachers' salaries. Mr. O'Neil has a class of earnest pupils around him; he was examining a

grade for promotion on Thursday. Miss Gallagher, we regretted to see, was absent from illness. Miss McDermott, her excellent Vice-Principal, was in charge. Mr. Brennan here, as at every school in his ward, is a daily visitor.

Primary School No 37.

George Wolf, Esq., one of the Trustees of the 3d Ward, has presented to this school four silver medals for the use of the school. The designs are beautiful.

THE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

The October Reception was one of the most delightful of the many very pleasant occasions on which the teachers meet. The Hall was full, the music excellent and everybody in good spirits. Com. Fuller represented the Board of Education. There were many teachers from Brooklyn, among them Dr. Cruikshanks and Prof. Jelliffe. Mr. Lumbard's singing seemed to please remarkably, in his "Mariner," and Mrs. Hills delighted all by her "My Love has gone a Sailing." The New York Ballad and Glee Club is a name for a company of most charming vocalists, and they will make themselves friends wherever they go.

NEW JERSEY.

We have adverted to the peculiar state of matters existing in Jersey City—the Board of Education not having money enough granted it by the Board of Finance to pay the teachers for the year, without reducing the salaries. The Board of Education therefore notified the teachers that the schools would be closed from Nov. 11 to Dec. 1 unless the teachers chose to work for nothing. The teachers met Oct. 21 in the evening, and debated the matter, Geo. W. Beale of No. 3 presiding. A committee, consisting of Messrs. Barton, Linsley, and Atwood, reported the state of the case. The full report is too long for our crowded columns, but it has powerful arguments in it. It says: "Can the people of Jersey City pay \$343,250 for Police and only \$223,150 for education?" The following resolutions were adopted:

1. Resolved, That strict justice to the teacher and the best interests of the present and future society, demand, that sufficient salaries should be paid teachers, to enable them not only to meet their current expenses, but by the practice of economy to insure them against penury in old age.

2. Resolved, That we express our thanks to the Board of Education for the noble stand they have taken for the right, and for the regard they have had for conscience and justice in this matter.

3. Resolved, That we tender our thanks to the daily press of the city, for opening their columns so generously heretofore to anything pertaining to the educational interests of the city.

4. Resolved, That we recognize no obligation as teachers to contribute our services gratuitously other than the general obligation resting upon all good citizens to contribute their mite to the public good.

5. Resolved, That we as the teachers refuse to disgrace our profession and to insult the intelligence of the people of Jersey City by offering our services gratuitously.

At a subsequent meeting, held Nov. 3, there seemed to be an apprehension that those citizens who discouraged the expectation of remuneration by the Legislature were actuated by motives of hostility to the Board of Education, hence a change of feeling was manifested. Prof. Barton, Principal of the High School, offered this resolution:

"That we will give our services from Nov. 11 to Dec. 1, on condition that the Boards of Education and Finance will pass a resolution offering to do all in their power to see that the salaries of the teachers are not reduced

next year." This was finally adopted.

The younger teachers did not apparently appreciate the gravity of the occasion; the Principals, notably Messrs. Linsley, Joslin, Hulse, Beale, Yerrington, Miss Dunham and others saw the bearing of the case, and were a unit on supporting what was believed to be the desire (unofficial) of the Board of Education. To these, headed by Prof. Barton of the High School, the passage of the resolution must be attributed.

THE HIGH SCHOOL.

The citizens of Jersey City have just cause to be gratified with the standing achieved by its young yet prosperous High School. It has all the tokens of an earnest and healthy growth. The attendance is large, nearly 300; and the Course of Study arranged to fit for any college, occupying three years, Greek and Latin form the basis of the Classical course; the Sciences and Modern Languages of the Modern English course; Mathematics, Bookkeeping etc. of the Commercial course. Geo. H. Barton is Principal and Albert C. Hall, the Vice Principal; the assistant teachers are well chosen, and the whole school is performing its beneficial work quietly but thoroughly.

PRONUNCIATION OF ENGLISH.

In spite of the efforts of philologists, there is a large class of words that is constantly mispronounced. Although attention is called to them in the spelling books, yet the poor pronunciation of one generation is being handed down to another. Careful attention should be given to this matter by all who prepare teachers—such as Institutes and Normal Schools. For instance:

Clerk is pronounced as if spelled clurk.
Merge " " " " murge.
Verse " " " " vurse.
Nerve " " " " nurve.

We subjoin a list of those more commonly mispronounced: Perch, serve, sperm, terse, earth, learn, search, first, shirt, world, third, worse, pursue, myrrh, burnt, clergy, certain, fertile, fervent, mercy, mermaid, perfect, person, sermon, service, emerge, immerse, superb, earthy, virgin, courtesy, thirteen, Thursday, murder, curtain, firkin, perjury, clergyman, paternal, courtesy, courteous, etc.

One of the best ways to teach proper pronunciation is for the teacher to take the spelling book (the National Elementary Speller by Parker and Watson has these words well arranged), and, calling them off, let his pupils pronounce after him. If this is done once in two weeks, and the teacher is careful meanwhile to pronounce correctly, a whole school can be put on the right track and kept there.

SELF-IMPROVEMENT.

It cannot be doubted that teaching and learning go hand in hand. A teacher who counsels his pupil to learn should be a learner himself. Not simply preparing the daily lessons, but delving in the mines of knowledge for greater treasures than he possesses at present. No teacher can teach and not reduce his stock, no matter how many times he may reiterate his facts. Hence he will absolutely deteriorate. Teachers should steadily go to school; not simply read over on given subjects. The tendency is, after having achieved a position, to be contented with that. It is not for the purpose of adding to the serious labors of the teacher that we counsel him not to rest contented and satisfied with what he has already accomplished.

Not long since, a veteran teacher was lamenting his neglect to study Latin and Greek. He felt keenly the fact he admitted, that he had had sufficient time to become, in the eighteen years he had been engaged in teaching, a critical scholar in languages whose structure he had always admired; but putting off year by year a beginning, he had at last come into the possession of gray hairs, but not of the coveted classical literature.

Step by step we gain the heights,
Onward striving side by side;
Oh, the sweet and rare delights
When proud learning's paths abide.
Still we labor in the field,
Prouder steps before us rise,
Patient toil at last will yield
Unto every one the prize.

MENTAL ARITHMETIC.

It was first introduced by Warren Colburn, who graduated at Harvard College in 1820, and soon after became a school teacher in the city of Boston. In 1821 he published his "Mental Arithmetic," which had an immense circulation in Europe as well as in the United States. Since then, Mental Arithmetic has been modified and very much improved upon, so that it now affords the finest mental discipline of any study in our public schools.

When properly taught, it gives quickness of perception, keenness of insight, toughness of mental fibre, and an intellectual power and grasp that can be acquired by no other elementary branch of study. An old writer on Arithmetic quaintly called his work "The Whetstone of Wit." This can be said with more propriety of Mental Arithmetic. It is a mental grindstone; it sharpens the mind and gives it the power of concentration and penetration.

Begin the very first day, and keep it up all the session. Generally pupils do not even read a problem carefully before they begin to set down the numbers on the slate and add, subtract and multiply or divide, as the case may be. They are working for the answer, and when they obtain that, they have a sigh of relief, and try to get another answer. This is the case, to a great extent, wherever scholars do not study Mental Arithmetic. If you combine the two systems, then you have gained a point which will enable you to do your work better.

The day is not far distant when authors will combine the mental with the written in one volume.

Already is this the case with White's Arithmetics for graded schools. First are the mental solutions; then follow the written examples; last of all the rules and definitions and by the time the pupil reaches the rule he is able to understand it, and even make a rule of his own. This combination can easily be effected in our schools, and when once begun it will never be abandoned. Then Mental Arithmetic will be one of the qualifications of the teacher, and he will be obliged to undergo rigid examinations in this branch of Mathematics.

Two years ago "Theory and Practice" of teaching were not considered a part of an examination. Now a teacher must have read some work on these topics. Two years hence Mental Arithmetic will be sought after, and then there will be grumbling in the ranks, "because it dashes a man so to get up and solve a mental question before a teachers' examination." Mental Arithmetic teaches pupils to reason not only of numbers, but of other things as well. They will analyze a sentence in grammar more readily than others who do not study Mental Arithmetic. And when they come to the higher branches, such as Rhetoric or Logic, their powers of reasoning, which were developed in the mental class, will be of vast service to them. Allow me to make a quotation from the preface of Davies' "Intellectual or Mental Arithmetic": "To learn one thing at a time—to learn that thing thoroughly—and to learn its connections with all other things, are the steps that lead to the temple of truth. The syllogism of Aristotle, 'All men are mortal; Mr. Jones is a man: therefore Mr. Jones is mortal,' is the form in substance by which we pass from what is known to what is unknown in all the processes of mathematical reasoning." Here Mr. Davies speaks in general terms of this mathematical reasoning, but he intends it more especially for Mental Arithmetic, since we find it in his introduc-

tion to the book.

The teacher should read a question distinctly, and all who are ready for it will instantly raise their hands; then some one is pointed out, who rises, repeats the question, and solves it. The solution can best be given by what is known as "The Four Step Method," which is as follows: Teacher reads—James had five cents, and he found seven more; how many had he then? First step: (Henry repeats the question) James had five cents, and he found seven more; how many had he then? Second step: He had as many as the sum of 5 and 7. Third step: 5 cents plus 7 cents are 12 cents. Fourth step: Therefore, if James had five cents, and found seven more, he then had twelve cents.—*Md. Ed. Jour.*

LETTERS.

SARATOGA SPRINGS, Nov. 3, 1876.

MY DEAR SIR:—I have received a number (Oct. 28) of the SCHOOL JOURNAL. I think it holds its own well—and more. But there is an article which, I believe, scarcely conveys the truth, and it seems to me is likely to mislead. The writer in the article "Sentence Building" says, "When we use a word we do not look at its pedigree, &c. &c." I grant that as a general thing people do not look at the pedigree of a work, nor study much about it, and hence comes the extreme laxity in the use of words, the very great indefiniteness in the ideas of many, and the very large amount of very poor composition met with every day of our lives. The thing that young people know little about, after they have "graduated" from our best schools and colleges, is the copiousness and beauty and fullness of the English language.

It is said of Choate, the great master of words, that it was his great pleasure and constant practice to spend an hour a day at least in "studying the pedigree" of words. Taking any one that came up, carrying it back to its most distant root, and then gathering its derivatives from near and far.

If this plan were adopted by young speakers, or made part of a school duty at stated times, the effect of it would soon tell for itself.

A. E. W.

NOTES MADE IN SCHOOL ROOMS.

In the city of Ogdensburgh Public school No. 1 has one of the best lady Principals presiding over it. The discipline was unexceptionable, and everything pertaining thereto was conducted on the best plans.

Miss Guest, the Principal, although young in years is a veteran in character and ability. It would be a blessing to have such teachers in all communities. The salaries of male Principals are \$70 per month; of females, \$50; both doing the same duties and assuming equal responsibilities.

Throughout Canada the Protestant and Catholic children are taught in separate buildings, but supported by the public funds.

In Prescott, Ont., the Separate or Catholic school is under charge of Prof. McGurn, a graduate of Montreal College. The building is one of the handsomest in the Dominion, and one of the best constructed for school purposes visited. The pattern of which might be copied to advantage by some of the designers of school houses in the large towns of the States. In the management thereof, there is energy, snap and prompt discipline and teaching. It is a first class public school.

At Kingston most of the houses and all the churches and schools are built of gray-stone. The buildings of the latter are badly planned structures, without cheerfulness, light or ventilation; the teachers are poorly paid; the wages averaging but little beyond that of servant-girls. But they are faithful and hard workers, and yield a large equivalent for the beggarly compensation paid them. Male Principals receive \$700 per year. The Wellington school, presided over by Prof. J. H. Metcalf, is considered one of the best schools in Ontario. He is an able

master in the school-house. I was somewhat surprised upon entering his class-room to see his pupils feasting on fruit and confectionery instead of studying or reciting lessons, the hour being about 2 P. M. He smiled and said, "This is Hallowe'en, and I always give my scholars a bit of a treat on such an occasion. Come, sit down and partake of our enjoyment." And, pulling me into a chair, he filled my hands with candy and fruit and bade me deep harmony with the order of things.

JOHN OAKLEY.

MR. EDITOR:

I think I must for once disagree with the action of the Board of Education in making a holiday of Monday last. In fact there are many things I think they might do a great deal better than they do. But the special matter now objected to is the holiday on Monday last. Why should teachers, like a lot of school-boys, want school to suspend? They preach up that school is such a good place, but secretly they dislike it as much as the truants do. That was a petition from Principals. But I would far rather be at my school-room on that day than out of it. How many went to Philadelphia? Not twenty-five. The teacher that did not avail herself of the vacation is not to be found—we have common sense. Please publish the above, and oblige an

ASSISTANT TEACHER.

A. M. KELLOGG, Esq.

DEAR SIR—You invite correspondence, critical or otherwise. I was glad to read in yours of July 8 a biographical sketch of S. S. Packard. It is that of a keen, well organized man, an example worthy to be followed. The paper on "Individuality" by Prof. J. H. Hoose is very well expressed and is of the kind of probing which takes the egotism out of the reader like a Damascus blade. Our family find much to interest in your columns.

W. A. K.

OHIO.

Supt. Snyder keeps up a genuine interest in Caledonia by publishing in the *Argus* his "Roll of Honor," also questions given the "B" Class. Let every teacher send such results to us. (We would urge all Superintendents to grade their schools on the "New York Plan." Send for course of study.)

The following "questions" were used for the monthly examination of the B Class, Caledonian High School, Oct. 19, 1876:

GEOGRAPHY.

1. Bound each grand division of the earth.
2. Describe the following rivers: Yukon, Mississippi and Amazon.
3. Draw a figure to represent the zones, and explain how the width of each is determined.
4. Draw a figure to represent the compass (thirty two points) and name the points.
5. Draw a map of the Western Hemisphere and locate the principal mountains, rivers, and cities.
6. Draw a map of Marion County, Ohio, and bound each township.
7. Name the five largest islands of Oceanica.
8. Locate the following capes: St. Roque, St. Lucas, Farewell and North East.
9. Bound Mexico and Central America.
10. Name the largest branches of the Mississippi and the Amazon.
11. Name and bound the six great lakes of North America.
12. Locate the following mountains; Coast Range, Altai, Caucasus, Ural and Alps.

A COSTLY GLOBE—The Shah of Persia has in his palace a terrestrial globe, said to be of solid gold. It is surrounded by a circle of the same metal, and adorned with all sorts of gems. All the countries are indicated by incrustations of diamonds and priceless stones of various colors.

THE TEACHER HAS A NOBLE CALLING.

Excellence in any profession or calling usually meets with its just reward. If your profession is overcrowded, remember, "there is room at the top." The upper plane in your profession, like all others, has but few upon it. There is abundance of room there, and there you will always obtain ample remuneration for your labor. The name or title of your profession is no longer one of derision, or denoting inferiority, as "pedagogue" and "school ma'm." There is nothing menial about it. What nobler title can you desire than that of Teacher? It is emblazoned on the highest scroll of honor, erudition, scientific research, and human excellence. Louis Agassiz, having exhausted the field of scientific research in Europe and almost that of America, and in the fullness of years, feeling that his earthly existence was about to close, took up his pen to write his last will and testament. According to the European custom and law, a title or addition to his name was desirable. His native Switzerland no doubt would have esteemed it an honor to bestow the highest known to her prerogative. The fellowships of Heidelberg, Munich and Cambridge would have vied with each other in furnishing the highest within their gift. But he preferred one more appropriate to the work of his life, and nobler than any they could give; one wrought out and earned by his own hand, and sustained and exalted by his great genius and mental power, and so he wrote, "I, LOUIS AGASSIZ, Teacher." Yes, indeed! he was a great teacher, having risen to the topmost plane of scientific and educational eminence—a teacher of men. And yet he was a student all his life. What better or nobler bequest could he have left to you?

A CURIOUS LIFE POEM.

[Mrs. H. A. DEMING, of San Francisco, is said to have occupied a year in hunting up and fitting together the following thirty-eight lines from thirty-eight English poets. The names of the authors are given below. How many can place them without referring to the key?]

1. Why all this toil for triumphs of an hour?
2. Life's a short summer—man a flower;
3. By turns we catch the vital breath and die.
4. The cradle and the tomb, alas! so nigh.
5. To be is better far than not to be,
6. Though all man's life may seem a tragedy
7. But light cares speak when mighty griefs are dumb,
8. The bottom is but shallow whence they come.
9. Your fate is but the common fate of all;
10. Unmingled joys here to man befall.
11. Nature to each allots his proper sphere—
12. Fortune makes folly her peculiar care.
13. Custom does often reason overrule,
14. And throw a cruel sunshine on a fool.
15. Live well, how long or short, permit to heaven;
16. They who forgive most shall be most forgiven.
17. Sin may be clasped so close we cannot see its face—
18. Vile intercourse where virtue has not place;
19. Then keep your passions down, however dear,
20. Thou pendulum betwixt a smile and tear.
21. Her sensual snares let faithless Pleasure lay
22. With craft and skill, to ruin and betray.
23. Soar not too high to fall, but stoop to rise.
24. We masters grow of all we despise.
25. O, then, renounce that impious self-esteem;
26. Riches have wings, and grandeur is a dream.
27. Think not ambition wise because 'tis brave
28. The paths of glory lead but to the grave.
29. What is ambition? 'tis a glorious cheat.
30. Only destructive to the brave and great.
31. What's all the gaudy glitter of a crown?
32. The way to bliss lies not on beds of down.
33. How long we live, not years, but actions tell;
34. That man lives twice who lives the first life well.
35. Make then, while yet ye may, your God your friend;
36. Whom Christians worship, yet not comprehend.

37. The trust that's given, guard, and to yourself be just;

38. For, live how we can, yet die we must.

[1. Young. 2. Dr. Johnson. 3. Pope. 4. Prior. 5. Sewall. 6. Spencer. 7. Daniel. 8. Sir Walter Raleigh. 9. Longfellow. 10. Southwell. 11. Congreve. 12. Churchill. 13. Rochester. 14. Armstrong. 15. Milton. 16. Bailey. 17. Trench. 18. Somerville. 19. Thompson. 20. Byron. 21. Smollett. 22. Crabbe. 23. Massinger. 24. Crowley. 25. Beattie. 26. Cowper. 27. Sir Walter Davenant. 28. Gray. 29. Willis. 30. Addison. 31. Dryden. 32. Francis Quarles. 33. Watkins. 34. Herrick. 35. Wm. Mason. 36. Hill. 37. Dana. 38. Shakspeare.]

Brooklyn School Houses.

THE WARDROBES of the public schools in this city (Brooklyn), are not such as will warrant the Board of Education in inviting the Centennial Commissioners to examine them with a view of introducing them into Africa. It would be carrying coals to Newcastle. They must have been designed in some heathenish country. In most of the school-houses, for the accommodation of three or four hundred girls, two rooms, one above the other, eight by ten feet and seven feet in height, are provided. Hooks of the rudest description are put about the room in such a manner, that an article of clothing cannot be removed from one without dropping on the floor the contents of another. No provision is made for umbrellas; and none at all for overshoes, which the pupil either wears all day, or places on the floor under the seat, to be tossed about the room by the necessary movements of the pupils. Into the wardrobes the outer garments of three or four hundred girls are to be placed. Unless a long time be taken for dismissal, articles of clothing are constantly on the floor, becoming soiled and torn; frequently they are taken by those to whom they do not belong, or become lost in some unaccountable manner. On a rainy day this mass of wet clothing emits such a stench that it is noticeable in the adjoining rooms. The unhealthfulness of the emanations from these things, the infectious diseases thus liable to be communicated, the shiftlessness of the whole arrangement, we commend to the consideration of the new Committee on Health. In some of the school-houses recently erected, wardrobes have been placed in the classrooms. While this in a great measure prevents damage to the clothing, or its appropriation by other pupils than the owners, it is equally objectionable in a sanitary point of view. The clothing is shut up in small, dark, unventilated closets, and each article becomes thoroughly permeated with the odor of the others.

THE WATER CLOSETS, however, are the acme of the genius of the school-house architect. Like the youth in Punch, with the stupendous neck-tie, he has evidently "given his whole mind to it." Imagine the condition of the floor of a building in the yard of the school, about twenty feet by five, divided longitudinally by a low partition. Along each side of the partition are about twenty seats, while alongside of the wall opposite the seats, is a long urinal trough, in some cases so high that the smaller boys can scarcely peep over the edge of it. Some of these structures have doors at each end, but often only at one end; and to such a structure three or four hundred boys, provided with no other accommodation, rush pell-mell for the relief of their natural wants, in the brief space of twenty minutes' recess. As THE SANITARIAN admits of illustrations, I leave this subject to the genius which presides over it, to draw the picture. It is a matter of wonder that water closets in city halls, and other public places, are usually a mass of filth and obscenity, when the children and youth at our public and private schools are trained in filth?

DRINKING WATER is eked out to the chil-

dren of our public schools as if it were likely to injure them in their air-famished condition, as they rush for it from their stifling rooms, from a single faucet, usually in the yard, unprotected from inclement weather, but sometimes in the basement. From this one faucet several hundred boys are expected to supply themselves in a short recess. The crowding, pushing and general confusion are indescribable. If they wet with their clothing, they are perhaps punished for misbehavior or untidiness. If made to form a line and drink in State prison fashion, the time consumed cannot be spared. Surely a competent and thoughtful architect could find a remedy for this evil.

WARMING AND VENTILATION.—In the cold season many school-rooms are either too warm or too cold. A teacher, strong and well, glowing from a good breakfast and a brisk walk, enters a room in the morning, of the requisite temperature. Without consulting the thermometer, she declares "she shall suffocate," and down come their windows to their full extent. Soon the pupils enter and take their seats; few of them under the same physical condition as the teacher. Thinly clad, having eaten an insufficient breakfast, and with a consequent sluggish circulation, they sit and shiver. They dare not ask to have the windows closed, lest they be snappishly refused, or the teacher, sitting out of the draft, will read them a lecture upon the benefits of fresh air, or perhaps, "the doors are open" for morning exercises, when to speak or move is the unpardonable sin.

Another teacher is in different physical condition—thin, dyspeptic; she gets out of a horse car chilled, and enters the school-room. If she finds the register closed, it opens with a snap. She wishes she "could ever find her room warm at once." She keeps on her shawl, shivers, and is cross. If one of the boys near the register, with flushed face, asks to lower the window, he is immediately sorry he wasn't born dumb.

Now it ought to be a finable offense for a teacher not to consult the thermometer hourly, and maintain, so far as lies in her power, an equal, comfortable and healthful temperature. The heating apparatus consumes coal enough and furnishes heat enough. A little "remption" on the teacher's part would remedy the evil.—*Sanitarian.*

Autumn Leaves.

Lay several thicknesses of thick, firm wrapping paper on the ironing table. Fold up paper, or old cloth, into a pad on which to put a cake of yellow wax. Lay the leaves smooth, and, if a spray or branch, pick out those leaves which overlap on the branch and hide a good part of the leaf; pass a warm flat iron over the wax quickly and then over the leaf or spray, on the upper side first; then turn over and do the same with the under side, and remove to the paper in which it is to be pressed. When the sheet is full, cover with two or three thicknesses of paper and proceed the same way with more leaves till all are waxed. This done, put all under an even but heavy pressure, and change them to dry papers every two or three days till the leaves are perfectly cured.

In pressing leaves it is a good plan to get a smooth, flat board, a little larger than the papers in which they are to be laid. Then put the papers smooth on this, and place the leaves in order as fast as ready. Cover with more papers; add more leaves, till all are done. When all are finished, put another board of the same size on top, and on that pile large, heavy books, making an equal pressure all over, or instead of the books, take off the marble top from a table or stand and put that on top. This gives the most even pressure, and is sufficiently heavy.

When leaves have been cured they can then be made ornamental, mingled with any kind of ferns. The Hartford creeping fern is very beautiful to use in wreaths and fea-

toons over doors, pictures, or around window and door-cases. By linking the vines together with a spray of rich leaves the effect is very pretty. Crosses, crowns, circles, or any fanciful shape may be cut out of paper, and leaves and ferns of all sorts sewed on. Or take very fine thread wire and wind bright leaves and small ferns together with the creeping fern on to the wire with "reel wire," such as is used in preparing wax flowers, or the wire used for flowers by milliners, which comes wound with silk. In this way very tasteful vines or wreaths can be arranged around windows or pictures, brackets or lambrequins. White curtains may be prettily looped up or festooned in the center of these vines or a bunch or spray of richly-colored leaves. No prettier decorations can be found than our autumn leaves may furnish in ingenious and skillful hands.

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